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TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5106

INFO RUEHZL/EUROPEAN POLITICAL COLLECTIVE PRIORITY

UNCLAS SOFIA 000360

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: EWWT EAID ECIN ECON EFIS MARR MASS MCAP BU

SUBJECT: BULGARIA: SUPPORTS GLOBAL MARITIME PARTNERSHIPS

REF: STATE 50488

We delivered REFTEL to Deputy Minister of Transportation Daniela Nikiforova and MFA's Plamen Petkov, Head of US Sector, America's Directorate on May 14. Deputy Minister Nikiforova's office has reviewed REFTEL, and replied in a letter saying that Bulgaria is interested in participating in any Global Maritime Partnership (GMP) activity aiming at enhancement of maritime safety, security, and marine environment protection. Nikoforova's letter also said that as a EU member, Bulgaria's participation in any such activity will be in the light of the EU integrated maritime policy and based on EU common position. Karagiannis